

Message from Outgoing Australian Chair

My time as Australian Chair of the Global Harmonization Task Force (GHTF) over the past 18 months has coincided with an interesting time in the international world of medical device regulation, not the least of which has been GHTF's reflection on its future directions, which has led to the proposal to develop a new model to deliver regulatory harmonization.

All who have been part of creating GHTF as we currently know it can be proud. The creation of an international forum that brings together both government and industry, working for a common goal for global harmonization of regulation, has been very beneficial for not just the jurisdictions represented by GHTF but also the many organisations who have used the work output of GHTF to build stronger regulatory or management systems for medical devices. It is important that the future changes build on these strong foundations. I am sure many will be watching the unfolding of the new regulator-led forum with much interest in the coming months.

I have enjoyed my time as the Australian Chair of GHTF and am grateful for the considerable support offered by all members of the Steering Committee.

I wish my Japanese colleagues well as they take on the chairmanship of GHTF for the next 18 months.

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